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TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY

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DRAFT MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY AND THE LAHONTAN WATER BOARD REGARDING **VEGETATION MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES**

WAIVER OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR VEGETATION MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES IN THE LAKE TAHOE BASIN

The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) and the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region (Lahontan Water Board) are proposing to streamline the permitting of vegetation management activities in the Lake Tahoe Basin by entering into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Under this MOU, TRPA would be the primary permitting authority for these activities. Without relinquishing any of its authority, the Lahontan Water Board would not issue separate permits for these activities and would rely on the TRPA permitting action to impose appropriate project conditions that are protective of water quality.

In a separate action, the Lahontan Water Board would waive the need for project proponents to apply for or obtain a permit from the Lahontan Water Board if they are regulated by the TRPA. This action is called a waiver of waste discharge requirements.

The TRPA and Lahontan Water Board are seeking comments on the draft MOU (enclosure 1) and the Lahontan Water Board is seeking comments on the draft waiver of waste discharge requirements and negative declaration. Enclosure 2 (Notice of Intent) provides information on how to obtain and comment on the draft waiver and negative declaration. Please submit all comments by September 15, 2008 to Anne Holden at the Lahontan Water Board or you may send your comments electronically to aholden@waterboards.ca.gov. The Lahontan Water Board will consider certifying the negative declaration, adopting the waiver of waste discharge requirements and authorizing its executive officer to sign the MOU at a meeting on October 7-8, 2008. The agenda announcement indicating the location and time for this meeting will be posted on the Lahontan Water Board web site by September 18, 2008. After considering the comments submitted on the MOU and the Lahontan Water Board action, John Singlaub, Executive Director of the TRPA, will consider signing the MOU.

HAROLD J. SINGER **EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

LAHONTAN REGIONAL WATER QUALITY

CONTROL BOARD

JOHN SINGLAUB **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY